PATENT

Docket No.: 12706/8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

Koichi TAKAHASHI, et al.

SERIAL NO.

(To be assigned)

FILED

(Herewith)

FOR

ANGLE DETECTION APPARATUS, OPTICAL SIGNAL SIWTCH SYSTEM AND INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT:

(Unassigned)

Examiner

(Unassigned)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & § 1.98

SIR:

In conformance with Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b)(1), the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention.

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, copies of the references are submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear in the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted.

Date: 24 December 2003

John C. Altmiller (Reg. No. 25,951)

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Sheet 1 of 1

| FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S) | | | Atty Docket No. Serial No. Inventors Filed | : 12706/8 : : Koichi TAKASHI, et al. : (Herewith) | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| | | Group Art Unit Examiner | : | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner <u>Initial</u> | Patent <u>Number</u> | Patent <u>Date</u> | Name | Class/ Subclass | Filing <u>Date</u> |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner <u>Initial</u> | Document Number | <u>Date</u> | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translation Yes No |
| | 8-227552 11-144273 11-144274 | 09/03/96 05/28/99 05/28/99 | Japan Japan Japan | | X X X |
| | | | | | , |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | |
| Examiner <u>Initial</u> | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.